

Applicant Overview

NATIONAL CASE CLOSED PROJECT

PRESENTED BY: RTI INTERNATIONAL

Funding Support

This project is supported by Grant No. 15PBJA-21-GK-04008-JAGP awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime, and the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking. Points of view or opinions in this presentation are those of the speaker and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Project Overview

- U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance has developed the National Case Closed Project as a new nationwide program designed to support law enforcement agencies in improving their violent crime clearance rates, with an emphasis on fatal and nonfatal shooting cases.
- Technical assistance will be provided to partner agencies based on an in-depth assessment of agency needs, strengths, and gaps.
- Educational materials will be developed that both project agencies and law enforcement agencies across the nation can use to improve their violent crime clearance rates.
- There is a focus on identifying and applying best practices that can be sustained and assisting agencies in tracking implementation and impact.

The Project Team

- RTI is an independent, nonprofit research institute dedicated to improving the human condition. We have partnered with the Bureau of Justice Assistance to lead this project.
- The project's website has a section that lists and provides a brief biography for each member of the project team. The team includes researchers and practitioners with backgrounds in law enforcement, investigations, forensic science, criminal law, criminology, victim services/advocacy, and more.
- RTI and the Bureau of Justice Assistance also provide high quality technical assistance with examples being the Sexual Assault Kit Initiative and the Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program.

Intended Impact



Understand and improve how agencies respond to and investigate fatal and nonfatal shooting cases.



Develop and disseminate educational materials, tools, and other resources for the field to improve the investigation of shootings nationwide.



Identify common challenges to case clearance, like collaboration with witnesses and residents, and assist in applying evidence-informed solutions.



Create a centralized resource that supports evidence-based practices and standards for fatal and nonfatal shooting investigations.

Assessment and Assistance Process

Visit

Attend an approximately 3-day in-person visit with each participating agency to introduce the project, speak with agency leaders, and collect data.

Interview

Complete interviews with key internal personnel and external partners.

Analyze

Conduct comprehensive shooting investigative case file reviews and review policies, training, and relevant agency data.

Support

Provide summary report of findings and track outcomes to evaluate agency implementation and impact.

What are the Agency Benefits?

Objective, scientific, and comprehensive assessment of agency's response to shootings with no direct costs to agency.

On-going access to national trainings, federal grant opportunities, investigative support tools, and technical assistance clearinghouse.

Targeted technical assistance that will provide information and actionable recommendations and follow-up that absorbs much of the burden of monitoring implementation and change.

Join a network of similar agencies working to understand and implement methods for increasing shooting clearance rates.

Who is Eligible to Apply?

- Applications are open to all municipal and county law enforcement agencies interested in improving their violent crime clearance rates, especially for fatal and nonfatal shootings.
- Applicants must be willing to fully commit to the project by providing access to your agency and all the necessary data, respond to project communications in a timely manner, and engage in technical assistance.
- Prioritizing applicants who have not received similar assessments in the recent past and who have been experiencing an increase in violent crime and lower-than-average violent crime clearance rates.
- Deadline for first round of applications is July 11, 2022.
- Submit application @: https://forensicrti.org/the-national-case-closed-project/

What is Expected from Selected Agencies?

- Identify a primary agency contact for project coordination during the approximately six-month engagement
- Coordinate and host an approximately 3-day in-person site visit at start of project
- Coordinate the scheduling of personnel interviews
- Provide access to agency investigative files
- Provide access to agency policy, training, and relevant administrative data
- Engage in technical assistance including implementing recommendations, providing data to track outcomes, and engaging in peer-to-peer activities
- Ensure on-going and consistent communication with the project team

Important Links

Project Website:

https://forensicrti.org/the-national-case-closed-project/

Download the Full Application:

https://forensicrti.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/National-Case-Closed-Project InvitationtoApply FINAL.docx

Project Application Form:

https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/803188ac95c64aefaa77d7dab1c6fe18

Open Forum for Questions

Contact Information

For questions and technical assistance regarding applying or obtaining information about any of the requirements of this Invitation to Apply, email the project team at caseclosed@rti.org.

